

MAY 25 1977

MICHAEL RODAK, JR., CLERK

IN THE

Supreme Court of the United States

October Term, 1976

No.

CHARLES BROWNSSELL and
CAZILIE BROWNSSELL,

76-1654

Petitioners,

- against -

ARCHIE DAVIDSON and
JOAN BOYD,

Respondents.

PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

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(6330)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Petition for Writ of Certiorari to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.	1
<u>Appendix A</u> - Endorsed Memorandum of MacMahon, U.S.D.J.	1a
<u>Appendix B</u> - Order and Judgment of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.	3a
<u>Appendix C</u> - Order of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit Granting Motion to Recall Mandate and Stay its Reissuance and Fix Time to File Petition for Rehearing.	5a
<u>Appendix D</u> - Order of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit Denying Petition for Rehearing	7a

TABLE OF AUTHORITIESCase:

<u>Farmer, Special Administrator v. United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners of America, Local 25, et al.</u> , Docket No. 75-804, argued November 8, 1976 and decided March 7, 1977.	9
--	---

PageStatutes:

28 U.S.C. 1254(1).	3
28 U.S.C. 1442(a)(1)	2
29 U.S.C. 151 <u>et seq.</u>	4

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TO THE HONORABLE,
THE JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME
COURT OF THE UNITED STATES:

The Petitioners, as their Petition for
Writ of Certiorari, respectfully show as follows:

1. On May 7, 1976, the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, by Honorable Lloyd F. MacMahon granted the Respondents' motion for judgement on the pleadings dismissing the complaint interposed on behalf of the Petitioners.^{1/} On January 7, 1977, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit issued its order, judgement and decree affirming the order of the said District Court. On March 16, 1977, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit granted a motion interposed by the Petitioners to recall the mandate, stay its reissuance and fixed the time for the filing of a Petition for Rehearing to and including April 1, 1977. On April 14, 1977, the

^{1/} The action was removed from the New York State Supreme Court, under Title 28, United States Code, Section 1442 (a) (1).

United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit issued its order denying the Petition for Rehearing. With the exception of the order issued by the United States District Court, previously mentioned, and which is contained therein, none of the aforementioned orders were accompanied by any opinion. Copies of the aforementioned orders are appended hereto.

2. It is the respectful contention of the Petitioners that the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit erred in denying the Petition for Rehearing, and at the same time, in doing so, was in conflict with the holding of this Court as more specifically set forth below. Based upon the orders of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, as set forth above, the jurisdiction of this Court is invoked pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 1254 (1).

3. The question presented for review is, to wit: Where the complaint of the Petitioners sounds in prima facie tort, did the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit err in affirming the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, in granting the motion for summary judgement interposed by the Respondents and in dismissing the complaint, rather than remanding the case for trial?

4. This proceeding involves the National Labor Relations Act, as amended, Title 29, United States Code, Section 151, et seq.

5. Petitioner, CHARLES BROWNSSELL, was a letter carrier, employed by the United States Postal Service. Petitioner, CAZILIE BROWNSSELL, is the wife of CHARLES BROWNSSELL. Prior to October 1972,

CHARLES BROWNSSELL sustained several on the job injuries. On or about October 6, 1972, CHARLES BROWNSSELL was advised by the Respondent, ARCHIE DAVIDSON, that his employment relationship was being severed, terminated or otherwise interrupted, until he was capable of performing all the duties of his position, notwithstanding the fact that prior to such date and subsequent thereto, other employees of the Post Office, letter carriers and others, who suffered from long-term illnesses and disabilities were otherwise treated, in that they were allowed to perform light duties, that is not their full duties, and were also permitted to perform their duties on a less than full time basis. It should be noted, that CHARLES BROWNSSELL was, at all times material, an officer of the Union representing the employees at the Post Office.

Respondents, ARCHIE DAVIDSON and JOAN BOYD, were at all times material, respectively, the Postmaster and Superintendent of Mails at the facility where CHARLES BROWNSSELL was employed. Both Respondents failed, refused and neglected to process official claims forms in connection with the on-the-job injuries. In point of fact, CHARLES BROWNSSELL did in fact receive his lawful compensation benefits, but they were not received and did not commence until the year 1974. In addition, Respondents refused to re-employ CHARLES BROWNSSELL.

On April 4, 1973 and July 24, 1973, CHARLES BROWNSSELL filed charges against the United States Postal Service with the National Labor Relations Board. On or about September 22, 1975, CHARLES BROWNSSELL, the United States Postal Service and the National

Labor Relations Board entered into a Settlement Agreement, consisting of two parts which were incorporated together by reference, which Agreement was fully approved on September 23, 1975. By the terms of the Settlement Agreement, CHARLES BROWNSSELL received the sum of \$5,000.00 against lost wages; credits towards annual and sick leave; a waiver by the United States Postal Service of certain claims based upon overpayment for leave time; reinstatement as a letter carrier; and, the United States Postal Service was required to post a notice provided by the National Labor Relations Board.

The complaint, interposed for and on behalf of the Petitioners, alleges that the acts and conduct of the Respondents complained of were done willfully, maliciously and without legal authority, causing CHARLES BROWNSSELL

monetary losses in addition to lost wages, and he was required to expend money for legal services in connection with the procurement and obtaining of his claims benefits for on-the-job injuries and to obtain his reinstatement through the National Labor Relations Board. Moreover, the complaint alleges, that both of the Petitioners were forced and required to seek the aid of the local social services department through an application for and receipt of welfare benefits, and that they thereby suffered serious and irreparable physical, emotional, mental and psychological injuries and anguish, as a result of the Respondents' conduct, in that the Petitioners were subjected to gross embarrassment because of the delay and receipt of wages and compensation benefits, and the loss of employment of the Petitioner CHARLES

BROWNSSELL, and that both of the Petitioners were subjected to unusual and deep debt requiring that they be placed upon the welfare rolls of the local social services department.

6. This Court recently considered and issued its opinion in Farmer, Special Administrator v. United Brotherhood of Carpenters & Joiners of America, Local 25, et al., Docket No. 75-804, argued November 8, 1976 and decided March 7, 1977, which in essence held that the National Labor Relations Act, as amended, and the National Labor Relations Board, do not afford remedies for all damages flowing from acts and conduct arising from an unfair labor practice. The Courts below are directed to try cases, being careful to distinguish between the unfair labor practice itself and the superimposed other civil wrongs, and damages may not be assessed for the

unfair labor practices, which are left to the National Labor Relations Board, but may be assessed for other civil wrongs. It seems to the Petitioners that the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit has decided the federal question involved here in a way in conflict with the Farmer case decided by this Court.

WHEREFORE, the Petitioners respectfully request that their Petition for a Writ of Certiorari be granted, together with such other and further relief as may seem just and proper to this Court.

DATED: NEW CITY, NEW YORK
May 20, 1977

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD W. ROSEN, Esq.
Attorney for Petitioners

APPENDIX ABrownsell v. Davidson

U.S. DISTRICT COURT
MAY 10 1976
S.D. OF N.Y.

ENDORSEMENT
75 Civ. 5241-LFM

Defendants, move, pursuant to Rule 12(c), Fed. R. Civ. P., for judgment on the pleadings dismissing the complaint on the ground that this court lacks jurisdiction.

The complaint alleges that defendants, the Postmaster of New City, New York and the Supervisor of Mails and Delivery at the New City Post Office, failed to process claims by plaintiff, Charles Brownsell, relating to on-the-job injuries and laid him off between October 6, 1972 and September 29, 1975 in retaliation for his activities as a representative of

Branch 5229, National Association of Letter Carriers. These allegations are essentially claims of unfair labor practices under Section 8(a) of the National Labor Relations Act, 29 U.S.C. § 158(a). The National Labor Relations Board has exclusive jurisdiction over claims arguably subject to the Act. San Diego Bldg. Trades Council v. Garmon, 359 U.S. 236, 245 (1959).

Accordingly, defendants' motion for judgment on the pleadings dismissing the complaint is granted.

So ordered.

Dated: New York, N. Y.
May 7, 1976

/s/ Lloyd F. MacMahon
LLOYD F. MacMAHON
United States District Judge

APPENDIX B

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE
SECOND CIRCUIT

At a stated Term of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, held at the United States Courthouse in the City of New York, on the seventh day of January one thousand nine hundred and seventy-seven.

Present:

HON. LEONARD P. MOORE

HON. JAMES L. OAKES

HON. WILLIAM H. TIMBERS

Circuit Judges,

_____)	
Charles Brownsell and)	
Cazilie Brownsell,)	
Plaintiffs-Appellants)	
v.)	76-6104
Archie Davidson and)	
Joan Boyd,)	
Defendants-Appellees.)	
_____)	

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

This cause came on to be heard on the transcript of record from the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, and was taken on submission.

ON CONSIDERATION WHEREOF, it is now hereby ordered, adjudged, and decreed that the order of said District Court be and it hereby is affirmed with costs to be taxed against the appellant.

A. DANIEL FUSARO,
Clerk

By VINCENT A. CARLIN,
Chief Deputy Clerk

APPENDIX C

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

Second Circuit

At a Stated Term of the United States Court of Appeals, in and for the Second Circuit, held at the United States Court House, in the City of New York, on the Sixteenth day of March, one thousand nine hundred and Seventy-seven.

Charles Brownsell and
Cazilie Brownsell,

Plaintiffs-Appellants,

v.

76-6104

Archie Davidson and
Joan Boyd,

Defendants-Appellees.

It is hereby ordered that the motion
made herein by counsel for the appellant by

notice of motion dated March 2, 1977 to recall the mandate and stay its reissuance and fix the time to file a petition for rehearing to and including April 1, 1977, be and it hereby is granted.

GRANTED.

/s/ Leonard P. Moore
LEONARD P. MOORE

/s/ James L. Oakes
JAMES L. OAKES

/s/ William H. Timbers
WILLIAM H. TIMBERS
Circuit Judges

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
SECOND CIRCUIT
F I L E D
A. DANIEL FUSARO, CLERK

APPENDIX D

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

SECOND CIRCUIT

At a Stated Term of the United States Court of Appeals, in and for the Second Circuit, held at the United States Court House, in the City of New York, on the fourteenth day of April, one thousand nine hundred and seventy-seven

Present:

HON. LEONARD P. MOORE

HON. JAMES L. OAKES

HON. WILLIAM H. TIMBERS

Circuit Judges.

CHARLES BROWNSSELL and
CAZILIE BROWNSSELL

Plaintiffs-Appellants,

v.

ARCHIE DAVIDSON and
JOAN BOYD,

Defendants-Appellees

A petition for a rehearing having been filed herein by counsel for the plaintiffs-appellants

Upon consideration thereof, it is

Ordered that said petition be and hereby is denied.

/s/ A. Daniel Fusaro
A. DANIEL FUSARO
Clerk

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
SECOND CIRCUIT
F I L E D
APR 14 1977
A. DANIEL FUSARO, CLERK